APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/035,402	12/28/2001	Ben B. Wang	14882RRUS01U	3378

7590 08/21/2006	EXAMINER
WEI WEI JEANG	POLLACK, MELVIN H
HAYNES AND BOONE LLP	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2145	

901 MAIN STREET
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DALLAS, TX 75202-3787

DATE MAILED: 08/21/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/035,402	WANG ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Melvin H. Pollack	2145	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>26 May 2006</u>.

2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b) ☒ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) <u>1-20</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) <u>1-20</u> is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on <u>28 December 2001</u> is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:

      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☒ Other: <u>see attached office action.</u>

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1.   A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in

37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is

eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e)

has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to

37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 26 May 2006 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the

basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed
> in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for
> patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an
> international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this
> subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United
> States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3.   Claims 1-4, 6, 8, 9, 11-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by

Bommareddy et al. (6,779,039).

4.   For claim 1, Bommareddy teaches a method (abstract) for addressing a node in a network

(col. 1, line 1 – col. 4, line 67), comprising:

   a.   Reading (Fig. 2, #216) an identifier (Figs. 3 and 4) comprising an identification

uniquely assigned to a subscriber (col. 6, lines 65-67);

   b.   Translating the identifier into a group identification (col. 6, lines 30-60)

representative of a plurality of identifiers (col. 7, lines 20-25);

c.   Responsive to translating the identifier, indexing an address table using the group

identification (col. 7, lines 10-15); and

d.   Mapping the group identification to a first node of the network (col. 7, lines 1-10).

5.   For claim 2, Bommareddy teaches that translating the identifier into a group

identification further comprises translating the identifier into one of a plurality of group

identifications (col. 5, lines 60-65).

6.   For claim 3, Bommareddy teaches that indexing an address table with the group

identification further comprises indexing a record of the table having a field element

corresponding to the group identification (col. 7, lines 10-15).

7.   For claim 4, Bommareddy teaches that mapping the group identification to a first node

further comprises mapping the group identification (Fig. 3) to a first node of a plurality of nodes

of the network (Figs. 1 and 8).

8.   For claim 6, Boomareddy teaches that translating the identifier further comprises

translating the identifier by a hashing function (col. 16, lines 5-35).

9.   For claim 8, Bommareddy teaches a message distributor (abstract) for processing an

identifier uniquely assigned to a subscriber (col. 1, line 1 – col. 4, line 67), comprising:

a.   A translation module (Fig. 1, #110) for receiving the identifier (Fig. 2, #216) and

converting the identifier (Fig. 3, #310) into one of a plurality of group identifications

(Fig. 1, #114 or #115), wherein each of the plurality of group identifications may be

obtained from a respective plurality of identifiers each respectively assigned to one of a

plurality of subscribers (col. 5, line 60 – col. 7, line 25); and

    b.   A first table including a plurality of records each indexable using one of the

plurality of group identifications, an indexed record including an element having a first

address of a processing node (col. 7, lines 10-15).

10.   For claim 9, Bommareddy teaches that the translation module is a hashing function (col.

16, lines 5-35).

11.   For claim 11, Bommareddy teaches that the translation module is operable to translate a

plurality of identifiers into a common group identification of the plurality of group

identifications (col. 6, line 30 – col. 7, line 25).

12.   For claim 12, Bommareddy teaches a processing element, and a memory module

maintaining the translation module and the first table, the translation module maintained by the

memory module as an instruction set executable by the processing element (col. 5, lines 40-45).

13.   For claim 13, Bommareddy teaches that the identifier is included (Fig. 3, #310) in a

message received by the message distributor (Fig. 2, #216) and the message is routed to the

processing node by the message distributor (Fig. 3, #314) upon indexing of the record (Fig. 3,

#312).

14.   For claim 14, Bommareddy teaches that the message distributor (Fig. 5) is operable to

receive a second identifier (col. 5, lines 60-65) and the translation module is operable to translate

the second identifier (Fig. 4) into a second group identification of the plurality of group

identifications (col. 6, line 30 – col. 7, line 25), and wherein a second record is indexed by the

second group identification (col. 16, lines 5-30).

15.   For claim 15, Bommareddy teaches that the second record includes a second element

having a second address (col. 7, line 65 – col. 9, line 10).

16.   For claim 16, Bommareddy teaches that the second address is equivalent to the first

address (col. 7, line 65 – col. 9, line 10).

17.   For claim 17, Bommareddy teaches that the second address is different than the first

address (col. 7, line 65 – col. 9, line 10).

18.   For claim 18, Bommareddy teaches an interface with a plurality of processing nodes (Fig.

7).

19.   For claim 19, Bommareddy teaches that the interface is a network interface (Fig. 1,

#128).

20.   For claim 20, Bommareddy teaches that the interface is an address bus of the message

distributor (Fig. 7, #701).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

21.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in
> section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are
> such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person
> having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the
> manner in which the invention was made.

22.   Claims 5, 7, 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ben-Shaul

et al. (6,976,090).

23.   For claim 5, Bommareddy does not expressly disclose that reading an identifier further

comprises reading a text-based identifier. Ben-Shaul teaches a method (abstract) of improving

hierarchical data distribution networks (col. 1, line 1 – col. 17, line 45), wherein identifiers

similar to those of Bommareddy (destination IP addresses) are read in text format (col. 57, lines

47-49). At the time the invention was made, one of ordinary skill in the art would have added text identifiers in order to more easily handle multiple identifiers (col. 57, lines 40-46).

24.   For claim 7, Bommareddy does not expressly disclose that translating the identifier into a group identification further comprises translating the identifier into a numerical-based group identification. Ben-Shaul teaches a method (abstract) of improving hierarchical data distribution networks (col. 1, line 1 – col. 17, line 45), wherein identifiers similar to those of Bommareddy (destination IP addresses) are read in numerical-based format (col. 57, lines 47-49). At the time the invention was made, one of ordinary skill in the art would have added numerical-based identifiers in order to more easily handle multiple identifiers (col. 57, lines 40-46).

25.   For claim 10, Bommareddy does not expressly disclose that the identifier is a text-based identifier and the group identification is a numerical-based identification. Ben-Shaul teaches this limitation (col. 57, lines 47-49). At the time the invention was made, one of ordinary skill in the art would have added numerical-based identifiers in order to more easily handle multiple identifiers (col. 57, lines 40-46).

Conclusion

26.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. They regard further teachings on group identifications, processing nodes, SIP, and hashing functions.
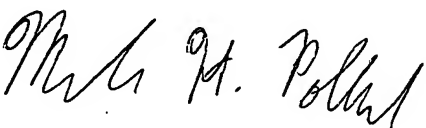
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Melvin H. Pollack whose telephone number is (571) 272-3887. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-4:30 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Jason Cardone can be reached on (571) 272-3933. The fax phone number for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would

like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated

information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

MHP
16 August 2006

Melvin H. Pollack
AU 2145